

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-06 DLOS-03 EB-07 COME-00

OFA-01 NEA-09 AGR-05 SAM-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /110 W

----- 005863

R 271413Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8469

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 685

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, FI, PO

SUBJECT: FINNISH POLICY ON PORTUGAL

REF: A) HELSINKI 0650:

1. GOF HAS FOR SOMETIME BEEN CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL, BUT HAS REFRAINED FROM ANY OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR DIRECT ACTION OF ASSISTANCE FOR EITHER PORTUGAL AS A COUNTRY OR THE MODERATE ELEMENTS IN PORTUGAL.

2. AT THE RECENT MEETING OF NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS IN HELSINKI MARCH 20-21, GOF AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING SHORT JOINT COMMUNIQUE STATEMENT ON PORTUGAL: "MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR  
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SUPPORT FOR FORCES THAT STRIVE FOR DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL

JUSTICE IN PORTUGAL."

3. WE ARE TOLD THAT ALTHOUGH THE ABOVE STATEMENT WAS THE BRIEFEST ONE IN THE COMMUNIQUE, THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL ACTUALLY TOOK UP A GREAT DEAL OF THE MEETING TIME. NEVERTHELESS, AS CONCERNED AS THE GOF IS ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL, IT HAS NOT DECIDED TO ENTER INTO ANY OFFICIAL BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOP, IN CONTRADISTINCTION TO NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

4. FINNISH MFA SOURCES HAVE TOLD US THAT GOF WILL APPROACH THIS QUESTION BY SUPPORTING ANY JOINT ASSISTANCE EFFORT DECIDED UPON IN THE NAME OF EFTA. THIS APPROACH, RATHER THAN A DIRECT BILATERAL ONE, IS PROBABLY DUE TO SENSITIVITIES ABOUT POSSIBLE SOVIET REACTIONS. GOF DOES NOT APPEAR TO KNOW AT THIS TIME WHAT MEASURES EFTA MAY DECIDE TO TAKE, AND IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT ALTHOUGH FINLAND WILL SUPPORT THEM, IT WILL NOT BE ONE OF THE ACTIVE INITIATORS.

5. OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS SUCH AS THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND THE LABOR UNION ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ESTABLISHED CONTACTS WITH AND GIVEN SUPPORT TO SOARES AND HIS FOLLOWERS.

6. IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT THE GOF AT THIS POINT CAN BE PERSUADED TO DO MORE THAN IT IS DOING FOR PORTUGAL. GOF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AID IS HEAVILY CONCENTRATED AT AFRICA INCLUDING FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES, AND WE KNOW OF NO CONSIDERATION FOR HANGING THE EMPHASIS OR DIRECTION OF THIS AID.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, COMMUNIQUEs, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 HELSINKI 0650:  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FINNISH POLICY ON PORTUGAL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, FI, PO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006